

BRYAN ISSUES APPEAL TO GERMAN-AMERICANS TO SUPPORT PRESIDENT

Former Secretary of State William J. Bryan last night issued his third statement, with in as many days, bearing on our relations with Germany. The latest statement is addressed to German-Americans and follows in full:

Permit me to address a word to you as one American citizen speaking to fellow-citizens in whose patriotism I have entire confidence. It is natural that in a contest between your Fatherland and other European nations your sympathies should be with the country of your birth. It is no cause for censure that this is true. It would be a reflection upon you if it were not true. Do not the sons of Great Britain sympathize with their mother country? Do not the sons of France sympathize with theirs? Is not the same true of Russia and of Italy? Why should it not be true of those who are born in Germany or Austria? The trouble is that the extremists on both sides have mistaken a natural attachment for a blind place for disloyalty to this country.

The President has been unjustly criticised by the partisans of both sides—the very best evidence of which is the fact that he has so conducted the government as to wholly please either side. It would excite not only astonishment, but misgivings, for partisans cannot so easily judge; they will of necessity look at the question from their own point of view, giving praise or blame, according as the act, regardless of its real character, helps or hurts the side with which they have aligned themselves.

Advantage of the Allies.
The fact that the Administration has received more criticism from German-Americans than from those in sympathy with the Allies is due to the fact that, while both sides are at liberty under international law to purchase munitions in the United States, the Allies, because of their control of the seas, have the advantage of being able to export it.

It is unfortunate that partisans of Germany should have overlooked the legal requirements of the situation and have thus misunderstood the position of the Administration. The Administration has been perfectly neutral but it could not have been otherwise without a palpable and intentional violation of the rules governing neutrality.

This government is not at liberty to materially change the rules of international law during the war, because every change suggested is discussed upon its merits as an abstract proposition, but according to the effect it will have upon the contest. Those who wanted to lay an embargo upon the export of arms defended their position on the ground that it would hasten peace, but it is strange that they could have overlooked the fact that the only way in which such action on our part could hasten peace would have been by helping one side to overcome the other.

While the attacks made upon the President by extremists of both sides were very unjust, it was equally unjust to suspect the patriotism of those who took sides. I feel well enough acquainted with the European-born Americans to believe that in a war between this country and any European power the naturalized citizens from that country would be as faithful to enlist as native-born citizens.

As I am now speaking to German-Americans, I am glad to repeat in public what I have often said in private and would have said in public before but for the fact that it would not have been proper for one in my official position to do so—namely, that in case of war between the United States and Germany—if so improbable a supposition can be considered—German-Americans would be as faithful to enlist as any other portion of our people. What I have said in regard to German-Americans is an introduction to an appeal which I feel it my duty to make to them.

First, if any of them ever in a moment of passion or excitement suspected the President of lack of friendship toward the German Government and the German people, let that thought be forgotten, never again to be recalled. I have, since my resignation, received numerous telegrams from German-American and German-American societies commending my action. I think the senders of these telegrams understand my position, but that no one may mistake it let me restate it. The President is not only desirous of peace, but he hopes for it, and he has adopted the methods which he thinks most likely to contribute toward peace.

My difference from him is as to method, not as to purpose, and my utterances since resigning have been intended to crystallize public sentiment in support of his efforts to maintain peace, or, to use a similar phrase, "Peace with Honor." But remember that the German Government and the German people, let that thought be forgotten, never again to be recalled. I have, since my resignation, received numerous telegrams from German-American and German-American societies commending my action. I think the senders of these telegrams understand my position, but that no one may mistake it let me restate it. The President is not only desirous of peace, but he hopes for it, and he has adopted the methods which he thinks most likely to contribute toward peace.

The alarmists of the metropolis have had control of the metropolitan press, and they have loudly proclaimed that the prolongation of negotiations or the suggestion of international investigation would be a sign of weakness—and everything is weakness that does not contain a hint of war. The jingo sees in the rainbow of

promise only one color—red. Second: Knowing that the President desires peace, it is your duty to help him secure it. And how? By exerting your influence to convince the German Government of this fact and to persuade that Government to take no steps that would lead in the direction of war. My fear has been that the German Government might, in a despairing, friendly settlement, break off diplomatic relations, and thus create a condition out of which war might come without the intention of either country.

I do not ask you to minimize the earnestness of the President's statement—that would be unfair, both to him and to Germany. The sinking of the Lusitania cannot be understood upon the facts as we understand them. The killing of innocent women and children cannot be justified, whether the killing is by drowning or shooting. It would be necessary to plead the inhumanity of her enemies as an excuse for inhumanity on her own part. While it is true that cruelty is apt to meet cruelty, it is a prospect that knows no times nor seasons as it knows neither latitude nor longitude.

Third—Do not attempt to connect the negotiations which are going on between the United States and Germany with those between the United States and Great Britain. The cases are different, but even if they were the same, it would be necessary to treat our insistence that the allies shall not interfere with our commerce with neutral countries, but the difference on this point was restricted by order of the government directing the exercise of their discretionary powers in such a manner as to not violate neutral rights and interrupt legitimate trade. Relying on the faithful performance of these voluntary assurances by the allies' government the United States takes it for granted that the approach of American merchantmen to neutral ports situated upon the long line of coast shall not be interfered with. It is known that the do not "carry goods which are contraband of war or goods destined to or proceeding from ports within the belligerent territory affected."

There is no doubt that our government will insist upon this position—that is an important thing, the exact date of the note is not material. My reason for desiring to have the matter presented to the British at once was that Germany had a right to ask it, but because I was anxious to make it as easy as possible for Germany to accept the demands of the United States and cease to employ submarines against merchantmen.

There is no reason why any German-Americans should doubt the President's intentions in this matter. I am sure that every one upon reflection recognizes that our duty to prevent loss of life is more urgent than our duty to prevent interference with trade—loss of trade can be compensated for with money, but no settlement that the United States and Germany may reach can call back to life those who went down with the Lusitania and war would be the most expensive of all settlements because it would enormously add to the number of the dead.

Fourth—I hope that Germany will acquiesce in the new season of peace, and I hope that she will acquiesce in them without conditions. She can trust the United States to deal justly with her in the consideration of any changes that she may propose in the international rules that govern the taking of prizes. The more generously she acts in this matter the greater will be the glory which she will derive from it. She has raised a question which is now receiving serious consideration, namely, whether the introduction of the submarine necessitates any change in the rules governing the capture of prizes. The position seemingly taken by Germany, namely, that she is entitled to drown non-combatants because they ride with contraband, is an untenable position. The most that she could insist upon is that, in view of the introduction of this new weapon of warfare, new rules should be adopted, separating passengers from objectionable cargo.

If the use of the submarine justifies such a change, the law of blockade as will permit the cordon to be withdrawn far enough from the shore to avoid the danger of submarine attack, may it not be found possible to secure an international agreement by which passengers will be excluded from ships carrying contraband, or at least, from those carrying munitions of war? It would require but a slight change in the shipping laws to make this separation, and belligerent nations might be restrained from unnecessary increasing the contraband list if they were compelled to carry contraband on transports as they now carry troops.

Personally I would like to see the use of submarines abandoned entirely, just as I would like to see an abandonment of the use of aeroplanes and Zeppelins for the carrying of explosives, but I am not sanguine enough to be-

lieve that any effective instrument of warfare will be abandoned as long as war continues.

The very arguments which the advocates of peace advance against the submarine, the aeroplane, and the Zeppelin are advanced for them by those who conduct war. The more fatal a weapon is, the more it is in demand, and it is not an unusual thing to see a new instrument of destruction denounced as inhuman by those against whom it is employed, only to be employed later by those who only a little while before denounced it.

The above suggestions are respectfully submitted to those of German birth or descent, and they are submitted in the same spirit to naturalized citizens from other countries. To the naturalized citizen this is the land of adoption, but in one sense it may be nearer to him than it is to us who are native born, for those who come here are citizens by voluntary choice, while we are here by accident or birth. They may be said to have paid a higher compliment to the United States than we who were born here. But, more than that, it is the land of their children and their children's children, no matter for what reason they crossed the ocean. They not only share with us the shaping of our nation's destiny, but their descendants have a part with ours in all the blessings which present generations can, by wise and patriotic action bequeath to the generations that are to follow.

Order Note Held By Burr & Knapp Sent Back to Depositor

Referee in Bankruptcy John W. Banks in a decision today ordered that a \$3,800 note and mortgage held in the vaults of Burr & Knapp should be delivered to the Congressional Home Missionary society of this city. The money was given to Burr & Knapp to invest.

MASONIC NOTES.
At a stated communication of St. John's lodge, No. 8, to be held at Masonic Temple, Wednesday evening, June 16 at 7:30 o'clock, the F. C. degree will be conferred.

OUR NEW JAWN NEWS LETTER

(Special to the Farmer)
Newtown, June 12.—Sunday will be observed as Children's Day at the Congregational church, and appropriate services will be held at the Sunday school. The offering will be for the work of the Sunday school, and the Publishing society.

Rev. T. J. Lee spent a couple of days this week at his farm in Madison. His wife and son will join him there next week for the summer.

The following are the recently elected officers of Trinity Guild: President, Mrs. James H. George; Board of Directors, Mrs. A. B. Blackman, Mrs. H. N. Tlemann, Sr., Mrs. W. S. Hawley, Mrs. A. E. Brinton, choir mother, Mrs. Bertha Perry, chairman of the church committee, Miss C. Minor, secretary and treasurer, Miss M. E. Warner.

The members of the Wodside Club of Ansonia have volunteered their services for the benefit of St. Rose's church, and will give a minstrel show in the town hall on the evening of June 18. There will be a chorus of thirty voices and a general good time is promised.

Mrs. Edward Taylor's lawn and porch were the scene, Wednesday afternoon, of a rousing gathering of the Sunshine society and its friends. One mile road has been put into first class condition by Dan Lynch, working for the town. The improvement, it is said, portends two new automobile owners between Pole bridge and Berlin.

The Misses Mary and Margaret Callahan, Josiah A. Tilson and M. F. Carmody were among those who went to Bridgeport today to attend the funeral of James J. Leland.

Fred Liss is the owner of a new car. The farmers of Newtown generally complain of the poor prospects for a hay crop this year. The continued cold and dry weather is the cause of impending failure in this crop. It is freely predicted that hay will reach a new record price this winter. Unless reasonable weather arrives immediately many fields will not be cut at all, as the sparse crop will make cutting and curing it unprofitable.

The June bride may not be able to cook, but the refreshments usually show that she knows how to pick out a good caterer.

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Amusements

PLAZA

Today is the last opportunity local theatre goers will have to see Ibsen's powerful moral play, "Ghosts," being shown at the Plaza. "Ghosts," which is produced in five parts is one of the greatest exhortations against vice ever delivered and is more remarkable and more acceptable in theme than "Damaged Goods," which it is somewhat closely allied in basic plot. Henry B. Walthall as the father and Mary Alden as the wife are featured in the film and by short thrillingly tell the story to a most stirring climax.

The vaudeville menu is made up of the May Party, a musical comedy in miniature with nine clever young tars from the city in a repertoire of fascinating songs and dances that is pleasingly interspersed with some well pointed humor. Above comparison with any other act of its type that has been seen here in at least a year, Wahl & Jackson are scoring a phenomenal hit at every appearance. They have splendid voices and know just how to use them to the best advantage. Songs, dances, comedy chatter and pianologue compose the skit.

The remainder of the bill is taken care of by SI and Mary Stebbins in a comedy sketch, and a surprisingly funny card offering and Doncourt & Mack in a singing and comedy talking skit.

Charlie Chaplin in one of his funny "Keaton" sketches, and "The Rightful Thief" compose the bill. Trovato, the eccentric violinist who boasts more imitations than any other artist in vaudeville, is proving veritable "riot" at Poll's, where he heads an exceptional program of vaudeville and photoplay attractions. Trovato certainly can play the violin, while his eccentricities and his imitations are excruciatingly funny. He wins a big reception at each performance, and Bridgeporters who love good music should avail themselves of the final opportunity to-night to hear Trovato.

The photoplay feature, "The Middleman," a filmization of America's most beloved dramatic success, brings back to America Albert Chevalier, the noted English character actor. Mr. Chevalier has a wonderful part in this great film play and is capable supported by a big cast of stars.

Harry & Eva Puck, the former a song writer of note, and the latter a dainty comedienne are winning new laurels daily with their songland skit, "Sunshine and Showers." "A Mile a Minute," the big scenic spectacle, featuring a race between an auto and a train, will be presented for the last time to-night, having been held over for the last half of the week in response to popular request. Other features of the vaudeville bill include: Silvano in music, magic and shadowgraphs; Mile Dure, "the pet of Paris," in classic dances and songs; and the Three Brightons, two girls and a boy, in a variety novelty called "Shopping."

LYRIC

This past week has been a strenuous one at the Lyric theatre. What with giving nine performances of "Little Johnny Jones" and rehearsing the play which will be presented at the theatre next week, "The Firefly," the members of the Lyric Musical Comedy company have not found time to lay idle on their hands. They have put in a number of extra rehearsals on "The Firefly," for this play is one of the most difficult, as regards score and lyrics, being played on the American stage today.

The Calburn company has been whipped into fine shape under the direction of Ross Mobley and Alonzo Price, the first one directing the music and the latter the show itself. The play is now ready for presentation. The management is confident that the Bridgeport theatre-going public will receive the surprise of its existence when it sees the Lyric production, "The Firefly," presented in Bridgeport for the first time at popular prices. The scenery, costumes, and every thing connected with the show, will be on a par with the ones used in the original production, and there will be several new members in the company to assist in putting on the pretentious production. "The Firefly" should prove to be the best thing the Calburn company has yet given Bridgeport.

EMPIRE

Mary Pickford, known throughout the country as "America's Sweetheart," as well as the daintiest of screen actresses, will be seen at this theatre in a Famous Player-Paramount masterpiece, "The Dawn of a Tomorrow," a five part feature of faith and love, filmed from the successful play by Frances Hodgson Burnett; on Monday and Tuesday in conjunction with the regular program of select and entertaining features.

This master photodramatic production, "The Dawn of a Tomorrow," is one of the foremost of the famous Pickford special features. Today's program is headed by the film version of Sir Charles La Plante's famous play, "Jim the Penman," featuring the eminent dramatic star, John Mason, supported by an all star cast of leading photoplayers.

PARK

"THE SPICE OF LIFE." It is said to be almost an impossibility to please everybody but David Free of Leland Stanford University when he wrote "The Spice of Life," a three act American drama which will appeal to one and all. "The Spice of Life," will be the opening play presented by the Burr-Lynner Players, who will re-open the Park theatre for a special two week engagement, commencing Monday evening, June 14th.

The members of the Burr-Lynner Players are not a company of stock actors but an organization of recognized Broadway favorites who will offer several excellent New York successes under the personal stage direction of that master of stagecraft, George Burdette who recently assisted in producing the New York, Chicago and Boston sensation, "Experience."

The personnel of the company is as follows: Edith Fawcett, the leading woman, who created and played the leading role in "The Importance of

Coming and Going," which ran an entire season in New York; Helen Anders, leading man, who needs no introduction to local theatregoers and who will be remembered by his excellent work while a member of the Pull Players; Margaret McNulty, George Duthie, and James Ardmore a trio of talented players who recently closed with "Within the Law"; Doris Hardy, one of Broadway's most popular actresses; Earl Hamilton, well known through his excellent rendition of juvenile roles, from coast to coast; and Frieda Roberts, an English actress of undoubted ability. During the engagement matinees will be given on Wednesdays and Saturdays and the play for the following week, which will be a recent Broadway success, will be announced later.

CHILDREN'S DAY TO BE OBSERVED IN WEST END

Children of the West End Congregational church will celebrate Children's Day tomorrow. An elaborate program of exercises has been arranged, to begin at 5 o'clock in the afternoon.

PICNIC SEASON BEGINS WITH MANY PARTIES

The picnic season has begun. In Bridgeport today joy reigned among the Sunday school children of St. John's Episcopal church, for nearly 150 children took cars at 9:30 for the big playground, where under the guidance of teachers and special assistants they were initiated in many games and enjoyed a delightful lunch. The First Presbyterian church picnic is scheduled for June 25, at the same park, while the united picnic of the Park Street Congregational, Park Congregational, North Congregational, King's Highway and Black Rock churches is planned for June 24, and is expected to be one of the largest of the season. The Washington Park M. E. church will picnic at Roton Point, June 24. Special trolley transportation has been arranged.

E. H. Dillon & Co., 1105 Main St., are offering extraordinary inducements in summer millinery panama hats, natural leghorn hats and beautiful trimmed hats at wholesale prices.—Adv.

ANNIVERSARIES OF RING BATTLES

1900—Terry McGovern knocked out Tommy White in 3rd round at Coney Island. Later in the same year White again fought Terrible Terry in Milwaukee, and was defeated. He then retired from the ring. White was a native of Chicago, where he was known as the "Boat of Trade" and while he was never featherweight champion, he was one of the strongest, cleverest little men the ring has ever held. His first real fight was in 1880, when he fought a 54-round draw with Tommy Morgan. In 1892 he went to Minneapolis and fought 10 rounds with Ike Weil, and although it was a draw, the Pet had the best of the fight with the Belfast Spider. In the same year he fought a 32-round draw with Austrian Billy Murphy, and in 1893 he got a draw with Young Griffo, the clever Australian. In 1895 he fought a 20-round draw with George Dixon, the featherweight champion, and knocked out Eddie Santry. In 1897 White fought a 25-round draw with Solly Smith, who soon afterward became champion, and defeated "Gentleman Jack" Skelly. In 1898 he again fought draws with Dixon and Solly Smith, but was defeated by Dixon in Denver the following year.

1891—Jimmy Duffy, lightweight boxer, born in Lockport, N. Y.

1900—Oscar Gardner knocked out Billy Ryan in 18th round at Cleveland.

NOTICE

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All persons having unpaid bills or claims against the above named Company, which accrued on or before June 7, 1915, are requested and instructed to present the same for payment immediately to Frank E. Barker and Charles H. Williams at the Birmingham National Bank, Derby, Connecticut. Presentments should be so made to insure payment of said claims and for the purpose of expediting the closing of the books of said Company. The undersigned are the present managers and owners.

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